

***Amendments to the Claims:***

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

***Listing of Claims:***

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating a respiratory disease in a patient consisting essentially of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds; ~~to a patient in need thereof~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
2. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the respiratory disease is selected from the group consisting of COPD, bronchial asthma, pulmonary fibroses, emphysema, interstitial pulmonary disorders and pneumonias.
3. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the respiratory disease is COPD.

4. (Currently amended) A method for treating muscular dysfunction in a COPD patient consisting essentially of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH<sub>4</sub>), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds; ~~to a patient in need thereof~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
  
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in addition to the compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH<sub>4</sub>), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds, a further compound selected from the group consisting of arginine, L-arginine hydrochloride (L-Arg·HCl), L-arginine acetylaspariginate, L-arginine aspartate, L-arginine citrate, L-arginine glutamate, L-arginine oxoglurate, L-arginine tidiacicate and L-arginine timonacicate is used in simultaneous, separate or sequential combination with the compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH<sub>4</sub>), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-

methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds.

6. (Currently amended) A method for treating COPD in a patient consisting essentially of the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds; to a patient in need thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, characterized in that in addition to a therapeutically effective amount of the compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds, a therapeutically effective amount of a further compound selected from the group consisting of arginine, L-arginine hydrochloride (L-ArgHCl), L-arginine acetylaspariginate, L-arginine aspartate, L-arginine citrate, L-arginine glutamate, L-

arginine oxoglurate, L-arginine tidiacicate and L-arginine timonacicate is administered in a simultaneous, separate or sequential combination with the compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds.

8. – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method for treating a respiratory disease in a patient consisting essentially of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a further compound selected from the group consisting of arginine, L-arginine hydrochloride (L-Arg·HCl), L-arginine acetylaspariginate, L-arginine aspartate, L-arginine citrate, L-arginine glutamate, L-arginine oxoglurate, L-arginine tidiacicate and L-arginine timonacicate; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the respiratory disease is selected from the group consisting of COPD, bronchial asthma, pulmonary fibroses, emphysema, interstitial pulmonary disorders and pneumonias.
13. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the respiratory disease is COPD.
14. (Currently amended) A method for treating muscular dysfunction in a COPD patient consisting essentially of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds, in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a further compound selected from the group consisting of arginine, L-arginine hydrochloride (L-Arg·HCl), L-arginine acetylaspariginate, L-arginine aspartate, L-arginine citrate, L-arginine glutamate, L-arginine oxoglurate, L-arginine tidiacicate and L-arginine timonacicate[[,]]; ~~to a patient in need thereof~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. (Currently amended) A method for treating COPD in a patient consisting essentially of the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of (6R)-L-erythro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), (6R,S)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 1',2'-diacetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, Sepiapterin, 6-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-hydroxymethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, 6-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these compounds in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a further compound selected from the group consisting of arginine, L-arginine hydrochloride (L-Arg·HCl), L-arginine acetylaspariginatate, L-arginine aspartate, L-arginine citrate, L-arginine glutamate, L-arginine oxoglurate, L-arginine tidiacicate and L-arginine timonacicate; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. - 23. (Canceled)